

INTERNATIONAL BIODETERIORATION RESEARCH GROUP

Polymer Dispersion Working Group: Annual Report 2012

Report No: IBRG/PD/13/004

Date: March 2013

The Polymer Dispersion Group held only meeting in the last year, in March. The statistically designed collaborative experiment 8.0 was completed and an evaluation of the results presented. An initial draft paper for publication on the work carried out was presented and a preliminary test to investigate the growth of yeasts in a model polymer dispersion were presented.

Kornelia Brett of ISP Biocides and John Gillatt of Thor Specialities (UK) Ltd continued to perform the roles of Technical Secretary and Chair respectively. Kornelia was on maternity leave at the time the March 2012 meeting took place and Kurt Hansen, formerly of Troy Chemicals, stood in for her. His assistance is noted with thanks.

During the year, one meeting of the group took place. The twenty fourth meeting was held in April 2012 at The Vila Lanna, Prague, Czech Republic attended by approximately 20 participants with Kurt Hansen as Acting Secretary. Unfortunately, Kurt's employment ended shortly after the meeting took place and he did not then have access to his notes to enable minutes of that meeting to be prepared.

The primary aim of the Group continues to be the development of a standard method which could be used within the scope of the EU Biocidal Products Directive/Regulations (BPD/BPR) as an efficacy test for biocides used in polymer dispersions and similar materials and for evaluating the performance of biocides in such products. In addition, the remit of the Group includes investigating the biodeterioration of polymer dispersions in general and other relevant, related issues.

To date the former Polymer Emulsion Project and the Polymer Dispersion Group have completed eight collaborative experiments, some with several phases and the results of the eighth will form the basis of a paper for publication. During the period of this report there has been no further collaborative testing carried out although some preliminary data of an individual experiment designed to investigate the growth of yeasts in the Group's model polymer dispersion was reported. Additionally, statistical validation of the eighth collaborative experiment has taken place and the results of this exercise will be included in the paper for publication.

The Group's test method (*A Method for the Evaluation of Biocidal Compounds in Aqueous-Based Polymer Dispersions Internal Version 5.5, April 2010*, document IBRG/PD10/004) is available for revision at each of the Group's meetings.

It is hoped that by the autumn 2013 meeting the draft paper for publication will be completed and a plan for work to further investigate the growth of yeasts, and later moulds, will be developed.

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| John Gillatt: | Chair of the IBRG Polymer Dispersion Group |
| Kornelia Brett | Secretary of the IBRG Polymer Dispersion Group |